

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in this application:

1. (Cancelled).
2. (Cancelled).
3. (Cancelled).
4. (Cancelled).
5. (Cancelled).

6. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for storing optical fiber comprising:
a support member;

at least a first spindle disposed on said support member, said spindle offset with respect to the rotational center of said support member;

a holding member, said holding member adapted to hold said support member and said spindle in a way such that said support member is constrained in at least a first direction of movement, said holding member comprises a plate having a plurality of posts adapted in a way such that said support member can lie horizontally between said posts;

means for holding said support members substantially stationary with respect to said holding member;

wherein the diameter of at least a portion of said at least a first spindle is sufficiently large to prevent attenuation of optical signals transmitted over optical fiber disposed around the circumference of said spindle; and

~~The apparatus of claim 5~~ wherein said means for holding comprises a plurality of holes disposed in said posts and a plurality of screws adapted to be screwed into said holes.

7. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 46 wherein said at least a first spindle comprises two spindles.

8. (Cancelled).

9. (Cancelled).

10. (Cancelled).

11. (Cancelled).